REMARKS

Applicants submit this amendment for consideration prior to action on the pending claims. Applicants submit that the new claims presented above are fully supported by the specification and do not add new matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Robb D. Edmonds

Registration No. 46,681

THOMASON, MOSER & PATTERSON, LLP

3040 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1500

Houston, Texas 77056

713-623-4844 phone

713-623-4856 facsimile

ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANTS

APPENDIX

The paragraph at page 2, line 7 has been amended as follows:

This application is a continuation [application] under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) of [copending] United States [Patent] Application [Senal] No. 09/465,637 filed on December 17, 1999, now Patent No. 6,238,551, which is a continuation-in-part of United States Application No. 09/250,741 filed on February 16, 1999, now Patent No. 6,007,701, and a continuation-in-part of United States Application No. 09/265,903 filed on March 10, 1999 [copending United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/250,741 filed on February 16, 1999, and copending United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/265,903 filed on March 24, 1999].

THOMASONMOSERPATTERSON Fax:7136234846